

REMARKS

This communication is in response to the Restriction Requirement dated February 27, 2004. In that Office Action, the Examiner grouped Claims 1-17 as Group I and Claims 17-19 as Group II. In response, applicant elects Claims 1-17 Group I, without traverse. Please cancel Claims 17-19.

If the Examiner has any questions or believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (206) 359-6488.

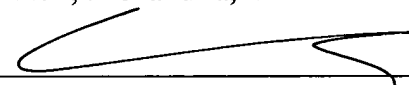
Respectfully submitted,

Date: 3/9/04


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelop addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 9, 2004 by Chun M. Ng.



AND

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at (703) 872-9306 on March 9, 2004 by Chun M. Ng.

